

Standard MS.01.01.01 to be Implemented by March 31, 2011.

Joint Commission Standard MS.01.01.01, formerly known as MS.1.20, has been adopted with an implementation date of March 31, 2011. This Standard, which is a combination of new, revised, and existing elements of performance (EPs), sets out the basic requirements for the following areas:

1. Substantive provisions need to be included in Medical Staff Bylaws as opposed to separate Medical Staff Rules, or separate policies and procedures.
2. There must be an established conflict management process when disputes arise between the organized medical staff (OMS) and the medical executive committee (MEC) and, if unresolved, the role of the hospital's Board (Board of Directors or Board of Trustees) in reviewing this conflict.
3. There must be a mechanism or threshold for determining when the conflict management process referred to above is triggered.
4. Requirements for fair hearing plans.
5. The OMS will be able to propose changes to bylaws, rules, regulations, and policies directly to the Board, bypassing the bylaws committee and the MEC.
6. Enables the MEC to propose and conditionally adopt "urgent amendments" to rules and regulations without prior OMS approval when the hospital is faced with an immediate legal mandate.
7. Increases authority of OMS to approve and reduce MEC authority or to remove MEC members.